

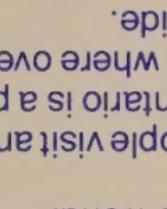
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Parliament Buildings, Toronto

Ontario / Canada



More than 30 million people visit and enjoy Ontario each year—evidence that Ontario is a people place. Warm and hospitable. A place where over 60 international

cultures thrive side by side.

With an estimated gross provincial product of around \$78 billion, Ontarians have achieved one of the highest standards of living in the world.

Ontario—the industrial and commercial heartland of Canada—produces 50% of the nation's manufacturing shipments. Ontario is responsible for 43% of total Canadian exports and accounts for 82% of Canada's

Ontario alone accounts for about 41% of Canada's gross national product and 39% of its total personal income.

Ontario is the largest of Canada's ten provinces in terms of population (8.5 million) and second largest in terms of area (660,800 sq. km)—larger than the combined

areas of Spain and France. One thousand miles across and another thousand in length with a quarter-million lakes, 15 basic raw minerals and 167 million acres of forests and waterways. Ontario's rich soil yields the highest annual agricultural production in Canada.

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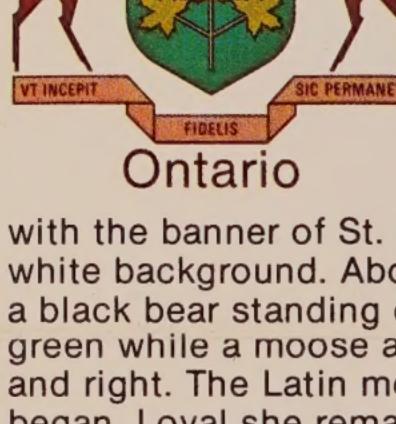
Ontario Facts

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Ontario



The name Ontario was first recorded in the journals of North American travellers by Father Louis Hennepin. It derived from the Iroquois word "Skanadario," meaning beautiful lake.



Coat of arms

The shield of the Province of Ontario was granted Royal Warrant by Queen Victoria in 1868, and the crest and supporters by King Edward VII in 1909. The shield consists of three golden maple leaves on a green background

with the banner of St. George, a red cross on white background. Above the shield is the crest, a black bear standing on a wreath of gold and green while a moose and a deer support the left and right. The Latin motto means "Loyal she began, Loyal she remains."

Flag



The Ontario flag was adopted by the Legislature in 1965.



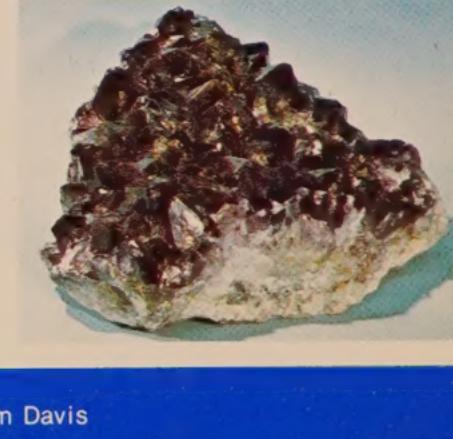
Flower

The white trillium was recommended as the floral emblem of the Province by the Ontario Horticultural Society and approved by the Legislature in 1937.

It can be found in the deciduous forest and woodlands in late April and May.

Gem

Ontario's official mineral emblem is the semi-precious purple gemstone, amethyst, adopted by the Legislature in 1975.



The Honourable William Davis

Premier